AGENDA



Port Freeport
Port Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, July 28, 2022, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
In Person & Videoconference - Administration Building - 1100 Cherry Street - Freeport

This meeting agenda with the agenda packet is posted online at www.portfreeport.com

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to Section 551.127 of the Texas Government Code titled "Videoconference Call." A quorum of the Port Commission, including the presiding officer, will be present at the Commissioner Meeting Room located at 1100 Cherry Street, Freeport, Texas. The public will be permitted to attend the meeting in person or by videoconference.

The videoconference is available online as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/i/86411939766?pwd=mw1bKSE2bAGMg273rQnz-vitoFJ8b.1

Meeting ID: 864 1193 9766

Passcode: 455678

Dial by your location 1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) Meeting ID: 864 1193 9766

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/killgAi4c

- CONVENE OPEN SESSION in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.001, et.seq., to review and consider the following:
- 2. Invocation.
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance: U.S. Flag & Texas Flag.
- 4. Roll Call.
- Safety Briefing.
- 6. Call to identify and discuss any conflicts of interest that may lead to a Commissioner abstaining from voting on any posted agenda item.
- 7. Public Comment. (Public comment on any matter not on this Agenda will be limited to 5 minutes per participant and can be completed in person or by videoconference)
- 8. Public Testimony. (Public testimony on any item on this Agenda will be limited to 3 minutes per agenda item to be addressed per participant and can be completed in person or by videoconference. The participant shall identify in advance the specific agenda item or items to be addressed.
- 9. Adoption of a Resolution approving the application for tax abatement between Port Freeport and Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. and PRP KDC Freeport Development, LLC regarding a \$115 million 125-acre vehicle importation and processing center for property located within the City of Freeport Reinvestment Zone 2022-01, approving Tax Abatement Agreement and authorizing Chairman and Secretary to execute said agreement.
- 10. Adjourn.

The Port Commission does not anticipate going into a closed session under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code at this meeting for any other items on the agenda, however, if necessary, the Port Commission may go into a closed session as permitted by law regarding any item on the agenda.

With this posted notice, Port Commissioners have been provided certain background information on the above listed agenda items. Copies of this information can be obtained by the public at the Port Administrative offices at 1100 Cherry Street, Freeport, TX.

Phyllis Saathoff, Executive Director/CEO
PORT FREEPORT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the District will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending its functions. Requests should be received at least 24 hours in advance.



1100 CHERRY ST. • FREEPORT, TX 77541 (979) 233-2667 • 1 (800) 362-5743 • FAX: (979) 373-0023 WWW.PORTFREEPORT.COM

TO: Port Commissioners

Executive Director/CEO

FROM: Rob Lowe

DATE: June 27, 2022

SUBJECT: Application for Tax Abatement in Port Freeport by Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. and

PRP KDC Freeport Development, LLC. for a proposed importation and processing facility.

Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. and PRP KDC Freeport Development, LLC. is evaluating the development of a 125-acre vehicle importation and processing center. The proposed site is on Port Freeport property within the City of Freeport Reinvestment Zone 2022-01, generally located south of Highway 36 and west of F.M. 1495.

Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. and PRP KDC Freeport Development LLC. tax abatement considerations:

- \$114,495,000 total investment
- \$28,500,000 in vertical improvements to be abated
- \$1,394,000 Tangible Personal Property to be abated
- Seven-year term of tax abatement (2023 through 2029)
- 10 new jobs commitment per tax abatement application
 - Total Jobs Planned 113
 - 11 VWGoA
 - 3 Porsche
 - 99 Third Party

•	Total direct 8	& indirect jobs	260-300
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Construction Jobs:

0	At Start	100
0	Peak	387
0	Finish	80

APPLICATION FOR TAX ABATEMENT IN PORT FREEPORT IN BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF APPLICATION:

- 1. Attach additional pages if there is not enough space allotted to answer questions on the application.
- 2. Applicants and projects must meet the requirements established by the Port Freeport Guidelines and Criteria (attached) in order to receive positive consideration. **PLEASE READ THE CRITERIA PRIOR TO COMPLETING THE APPLICATION.**
- 3. Applicants must submit an application processing fee in the amount of ONE THOUSAND & NO/100 (\$1,000.00) DOLLARS to cover costs of legal notices to be published.
- 4. Applicants must submit an adequately definitive legal description that sufficiently describes the tract(s) of land comprising the proposed tax abatement area (reinvestment zone) upon which the new facility, expansion or modernization project will be located. Applications with insufficient or indefinite legal descriptions will be returned to the applicant for amendment and such applications will not be considered for hearing until corrected.
- 5. Applicant must submit the attached "Certification of Appraised Value of Properties" form as part of this application. The certification should cover the proposed tax abatement area and it is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain this information from the Brazoria County Appraisal District.

PART I APPLICANT'S INFORMATION

The taxing unit may consider applicant financial capacity in determining whether to enter into an abatement agreement. Established companies for which public information is available, or the wholly owned businesses of such companies, should include with the new application a copy of their latest annual report to the stockholders. Other applicants and new companies should attach a statement showing: (1) when the company was established; (2) business references [name, contact and telephone number of principal bank, accountant and attorney]; and (3) may be required to submit an audited financial statement and business plan. **Attach as Exhibit "A".**

PARTS II & III PROJECTION INFORMATION

Only facilities listed in Section 2(a) of the Guidelines may receive abatement without applying for a variance. Check guidelines definitions in Section I to see if project qualifies.

If the project is a Regional Entertainment Facility, Regional Service Facility, Regional Distribution Center Facility, or other basic industry, include the following items: (1) market studies; (2) business plans; and (3) agreements or other materials demonstrating that the facility is intended to serve a market of which the majority is substantially outside the Brazoria County region. See Part III of the Application – Required Exhibits.

PART IV ECONOMIC IMPACT INFORMATION

Permanent Employment Estimates

In estimating the permanent employment, include the total number of jobs created at this site by your firm as well as known permanent jobs of service contractors required for operation.

Estimated Appraised Value on Site

The value January 1 preceding abatement should be the value established by the Brazoria County Central Appraisal District. If the applicant must estimate value because the taxable value is not known or is combined with other properties under a single tax account, please so state. To qualify, the abated properties must be expected to result in an addition to the tax base of at least one million dollars after the period of abatement expires. Projections of value should be a "best estimate" based on taxability in Texas. The projection of project values not abated should include personal property and ineligible project-related improvements such as office in excess of that used for plant administration, housing, etc. **Attach as Exhibit "B".**

PARTS V & VI

Self-explanatory.

APPLICATION FOR TAX ABATEMENT IN PORT FREEPORT IN BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS

FILING INSTRUCTION:

This application should be filed at least NINETY (90) DAYS prior to the beginning of construction or the installation of equipment. This filing acknowledges familiarity and assumed conformance with "GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR GRANTING TAX ABATEMENT IN A REINVESTMENT ZONE IN BRAZORIA COUNTY" (Copy attached). This application will become part of any later agreement or contract and knowingly false representations thereon will be grounds for the voiding of any later agreement or contract.

ORIGINAL COPY OF THIS APPLICATION AND ATTACHMENTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO:

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER PORT FREEPORT 1100 CHERRY STREET FREEPORT, TX 77541

Contact for Developer: PRP KDC Freeport Development LLC - Scott Ozymy; Executive Vice President and CIO of KDC; (214) 696-7825; scott.ozymy@kdc.com; 8115 Preston Road Suite 700 Dallas, Texas 75225

Company Name: Volkswagen Group of	America, Inc. Submittal Date: 5.18.2022 (amended 6.27.2022)
Address/City: 2200 Woodland Pointe	e Avenue
Phone: (248) 754-5000	
Name/Address/Phone of Company Con	tact on this Project: Donald Davidson
601 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 74	40; Washington DC, 20 004
Type of Structure: Corporation (
Total number employed: About 8,000	Corporate Annual Sales per year: Approx. \$25.5 billion
Annual Report submitted: $Yes(X)$	No () (see instructions)
Check Type of Facility to be abated: Manufacturing ()	Regional Distribution (X)
Regional Service ()	Regional Entertainment Center ()
Research ()	Other Basic Industry ()
Proposed Facility Address and Legal De	scription: Attach as Exhibit "C".
Attach a map showing site. Attach as E	xhibit "D".
Abstement Term Requested: 7 years	Percentage Requested: 100%

Propo	sed facility located in the following taxing jurisdictions:	
Scho	ool District: Brazosport Independent School District	
Colle	ege District: Brazosport College	
Draii	nage District: Velasco Drainage District	
Hosp	oital District: N/A	
City:	City of Freeport	
Othe	r Taxing Jurisdictions: Port Freeport	
Desc	ribe product or service to be provided: Automotive – Port Terminal	<u> </u>
	application is for a: New Plant (X) Expansion () Modernization ()
impro and fi	e attach a statement (1) fully explaining the project: (2) describing the site and existing exements; (3) describing all proposed improvements; and (4) providing a list of improvement equipment for which abatement is requested. Attach as Exhibit "E". licable, please describe any additional property located outside of the proposed reinvestate would add to the overall value of the project.	ements
PART	Γ IV - ECONOMIC IMPACT INFORMATION	Intention is to employ
A.	Estimated cost of proposed improvements: \$114,495,000	11 VWGoA FTE and
В.	Permanent employment estimates: If existing facility, the current plant employment: N/A Estimated number of plant jobs retained: (N/A) Jobs created: (10) Number of employees anticipated at start-up: 10 within one year: 10	Porsche FTE plus support 99 contractors & facility maintenance directly at the VWGo. Terminal. Total of 113 jobs
C.	Construction employment estimates:	directly at the VWGoA Terminal
	Construction to start: Month: 06 Year: 2022	
	Construction to be completed: Month: 12 Year: 2023 Number construction jobs anticipated:	
	At start: 100 Peak: 387 Finish: 80	
D.	School District impact estimates: Number of families transferred to area: Number of children added to ISDs: 23	
E.	City Impact estimates Volume of treated water required from City: Minor	

Minor

Volume of effluent to be treated by City:

Please provide statement by Addendum relative to planned water and sewer treatment methods and disposal of effluent if the facility is to be located outside city systems. If effluent is not treated by municipal facilities, by Addendum, include an explanation of the manner of treatment and by whom. Attach as Exhibit "F".

Has permitting been started: Yes	() No (X)		
F. Estimated appraised value on site:	LAND	PERSONAL PROPERTY	IMPROVEMENTS
Valuation of existing property as of Januar 1, preceding this abatement application:	sy \$393,210	\$0	\$0
Estimated value of Personal Property and provements, not subject to abatement, exempt Pollution Control Equipment , u completion of the project subject to this a	xcluding ipon	\$393,500	\$0
Estimated value of abated improvements a the completion of construction:	at		\$28,500,000
Estimated value of Tangible Personal Property, subject to abatement:		\$1,394,000	Estimate utilizing fixture depreciatio
Estimated value of abated improvements after abatement agreement expires:			\$12,540,000
Estimated value of abated Tangible Person Property, after abatement agreement expi		\$613,580	_
Estimated value, upon completion of the p of exempt pollution control equipment:	project,		N/A
G. Minimum Production Life of Equip	oment: 14 years	and greater	
H. Variance: Is a variance being sough			
I. Statement on planned efforts to use statement describing willingness an and services where applicable in the (h) (6) of the Guidelines and Criter	nd planned efforts the construction and	to use qualified Broperation of the f	razoria County Vendors acility. (See Section 2

Tangible Personal Property Abatement Request: Attach a detailed list describing all tangible personal property sought to be abated. Said list must include projected life, cost, and value after

abatement agreement expires. Attach as Exhibit "I".

J.

PART V - OTHER AGREEMENT APPLICATIONS			
Has the company made application for abatement of this project to other taxing jurisdictions or counties: Yes (X) No () If "Yes", provide (1) dates of application; (2) hearing dates; (3) name of jurisdiction(s) and contact(s); and (4) any letters of intent to abate. Attach as Exhibit "J".			
PARTS VI - DECLARATION			
To the Best of my knowledge, the above information is an accurate description of project details.			
Signed / Donald Davidson	Donald Davidson;		
	Manager of Government Relations		
Company Official Signature	Printed Name & Title of Company Official		

EXHIBIT A

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

EXHIBIT "A" - Latest Annual Report or Information on Establishment of the Company, Business References, audited financial statement and business plan.

EXHIBIT "B" - Certification of Appraised Value of Properties as of January 1, 2021

EXHIBIT "C" - Proposed Facility Address and Legal Description

EXHIBIT "D" - Map Showing Site

EXHIBIT "E" - Project Description including Time Schedule for Undertaking and Completing Project

EXHIBIT "F" - Planned Water and Sewer Treatment Methods and Disposal of Effluent

EXHIBIT "G" - Letter/Statement regarding Variance Requests

EXHIBIT "H" - Statement on Planned Use of Brazoria County Vendors

EXHIBIT "I" - Detailed Itemized List of Tangible Personal Property requesting to be abated.

EXHIBIT "J" - Application for Abatement with Other Taxing Jurisdictions



1100 CHERRY ST. • FREEPORT, TX 77541 (979) 233-2667 • 1 (800) 362-5743 • FAX: (979) 373-0023 WWW.PORTFREEPORT.COM

For a copy of the complete Volkswagen 2021 Annual Report, please contact Port Freeport CFO, Rob Lowe via email at lowe@portfreeport.com or by calling 979-233-2667 ext.4366.

EXHIBIT "B"

CERTIFICATION OF APPRAISED VALUE OF PROPERTIES AS OF JANUARY 1, 20_22_

TO:	BRAZORIA COUNTY		
FROM:	BRAZORIA COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT		
DATE:	May 20th 2022		
January 1, 20 22 Exhibit B-1 at	county Appraisal District hereby certifies 2. for property of tached hereto are listed in the records o following account numbers:	that the following appraised values as of described in f Brazoria County Appraisal District and	
PERSONAL P	PROPERTY	APPRAISED VALUE	
Account No		\$	
Account No		\$	
LAND			
Account No. 1	69639	\$260,050	
Account No. 1	62701	\$133,160	
Account No		\$	
IMPROVEME	NTS		
Account No		\$	
Account No		\$	
Account No		\$	
Certified this 20	Oth day of May	_, 20_22	
	CHIEF APPRAISER BRAZORIA COUNTY BY:	APPRAISAL DISTRICT	

Exhibit C

DESCRIPTION OF A 147.09 ACRE LEASE TRACT JOHN G. MCNEEL ½ LEAGUE, ABSTRACT NO. 335 AND CONCEPCION AREOLA SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 142 BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS

BEING A 147.09 ACRE LEASE TRACT IN THE JOHN G. MCNEEL ½ LEAGUE, ABSTRACT NO. 335 AND IN THE CONCEPCION AREOLA SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 142, BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS; SAID 147.09 ACRE LEASE TRACT BEING PART OF THAT TRACT OF LAND REFERRED TO AS PARCEL 14 OF PORT FREEPORT; SAID PARCEL 14 BEING PART OF THE REMAINDER OF A 61.27 ACRE TRACT OF LAND CONVEYED TO BRAZOS RIVER HARBOR NAVIGATION DISTRICT FROM FREEPORT SULPHUR COMPANY BY DEED DATED JUNE 18, 1962 AND RECORDED IN VOLUME 826, PAGE 531 OF THE DEED RECORDS OF BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS AND PART OF THE REMAINDER OF A 1384.40 ACRE TRACT REFERRED TO AS A PART OF TRACT SEVEN CONVEYED TO BRAZOS RIVER HARBOR NAVIGATION DISTRICT FROM FREEPORT MINERALS COMPANY BY DEED DATED AUGUST 27, 1982 AND RECORDED IN VOLUME 1663, PAGE 22 OF THE DEED RECORDS OF BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS; SAID 147.09 ACRE LEASE TRACT BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCING at TxDOT right of way monument located at the northeast corner of said Parcel 14 and being also located at the intersection of the southerly right of way of State Highway 36 with the westerly right of way of F M Highway 1495; thence as follows:

North 89° 12′ 15″ West, across said Parcel 14, a distance of 595.28 feet to the **POINT OF BEGINNING** and northeast corner of the herein described lease tract:

THENCE, South 29° 59′ 49″ West, along the eastern most line of the herein described lease tract, a distance of 562.30 feet to a point for corner;

THENCE, North 74° 46′ 11″ West, along the interior north line of the herein described lease tract, at a distance of 159.63 feet pass a chain link fence corner post located at the northeast corner of an existing 20.404 acre lease tract; and continuing for a total distance of 1,614.04 feet to a chain link fence corner post located at the northwest corner of said 20.404 acre lease tract for the interior corner of the herein described lease tract;

THENCE, South 15° 12′ 24″ West, along an interior east line of the herein described lease tract and along a chain link fence along the westerly line of said 20.404 acre lease site, a distance of 652.00 feet to a chain link fence corner post located at the southwest corner of said 20.404 acre lease tract and for the most southerly southeast corner of the herein described lease tract;

THENCE, North 75° 09′ 40″ West, along the southerly line of the herein described lease tract, a distance of 4,573.11 feet to a point for the southwest corner of the herein described lease tract; same being on the east line of 10.00 acre lease;

THENCE, North 14° 17′ 43″ East, along the westerly line of the herein described lease tract and along the east line of said 10.00 acre lease, passing the northeast corner of said 10.00 acre lease, and continuing for a total distance of 1,207.96 feet to a point for the northwest corner of the herein described lease tract;

THENCE, South 74° 56′ 34″ East, along the northerly line of the herein described lease tract, a distance of 6,349.84 feet to the **POINT OF BEGINNING** and containing 147.09 acres.

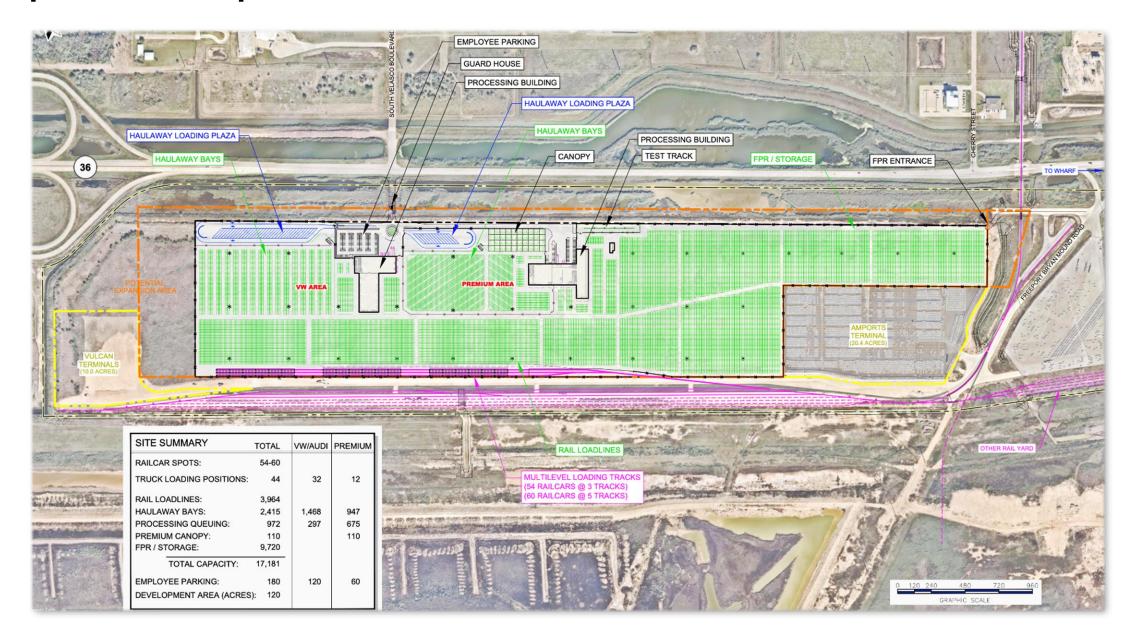
Proposed Port Freeport Facilities







Proposed Development – Site Plan







Proposed VWGoA Port of Entry Project Description

VOLKSWAGEN GROUP OF AMERICA

Project Description, Timeline, and Overview

- The proposed VWGoA Port of Entry project at Port Freeport will consist of a 125-acre vehicle importation and processing center.
 - Will manage distribution of vehicles inbound from Europe and Mexico by both rail and water.
 - The project will include an on-site rail loading and unloading facility, a vehicle storage area, as well as two buildings totaling approximately 170,000 square feet for administration, vehicle processing, parts storage, and specialized technical space for several different Volkswagen Group brands.
 - Additionally, electric chargers, fueling facilities, car washes, a storage canopy for certain vehicles, and dedicated truck loading and haulaway facilities will be constructed.
 - PQT/ Porsche / Lamborghini / Bentley to utilize space as well
- Project will cover over 50% of the United States by geography, serving dealers in an area spanning Texas, the Midwest, and the Pacific Northwest.
- Average throughput of the facility over the next 5 years is projected to be between 120,000 and 140,000 cars per year.
- Constructed on land ground leased from Port Freeport, who will retain fee title to the land.

Project Overview







^{*} Example Photos - Taken at VWGoA's new Tradepoint Atlantic vehicle terminal at the Port of Baltimore.

Project Overview



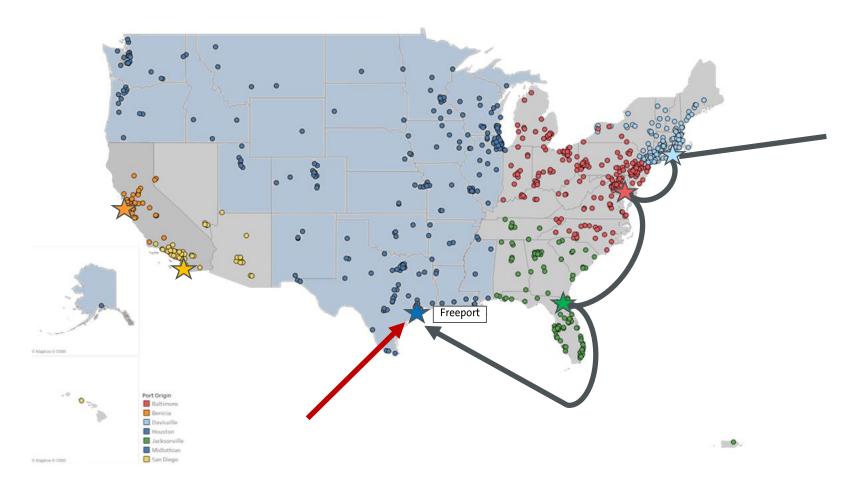




^{*} Example Photos - Taken at VWGoA's new Tradepoint Atlantic vehicle terminal at the Port of Baltimore.







Timeline, Schedule, and Jobs Overview



Construction Timeline and Jobs:

- Start June 2022; Conclude December 2023
- Construction Jobs: anticipate the creation of 387 jobs for 18-20 months, with almost 550,000 person-hours of construction activities being performed.
- VWGoA Port of Entry would support 260-300 jobs.
 - 113 of these jobs directly at VWGoA terminal
 - Require employment at the port of 60 to 100 stevedore drivers to unload the thousands of vehicles the terminal will import via vessel.
 - Require a robust trucking operation to be established and would support further employment at a shortline rail operator.
- Average Wage at VWGoA terminal: \$31.11

	Number
VWGoA Full Time Employees	11
Contractor / 3 rd Party Logistics Provider (3PL) –	
Processing, Management, Administrative, HR,	55
IT)	
Porsche Full Time Employees	3
Contractor 3PL – Rail Operations	12
Contractor 3PL – Technical (Accessory	
Installation, Vehicle Quality, Collision Repair	25
Technician, Paint Shop Technician)	
Contractor 3PL – Warehouse (Forklift Operator,	4
Parts)	4
Contractor 3PL - Temp Labor (operations)	15
Facility Maintenance	3
Trucking (Dispatch, Truck Loading Supervision,	15
Short Haul drivers)	15
Trucking (Long Haul drivers)	40
Vessel Stevedore Management, Supervision,	5
Administration	5
Vessel Stevedore Drivers	60-100
Shortline Rail Operator	10
Vehicle Inspection 3PL	2
VWGoA / Porsche Full Time Employees	14
Total Jobs Directly at VWGoA Terminal	113
Total Direct & Indirect Jobs	260-300

Bold, Italicized = Jobs at VWGoA Terminal





- Automotive Technician
- Body Shop Operation
- Port Installed Accessories
- Terminal Upkeep and Maintenance
- Intermodal operations
- Warehousing
- Security
- Coordinating vendor delivery or pick ups
 - Auto Haulers
 - Parts Trucks
 - Recycle/Refuse removal







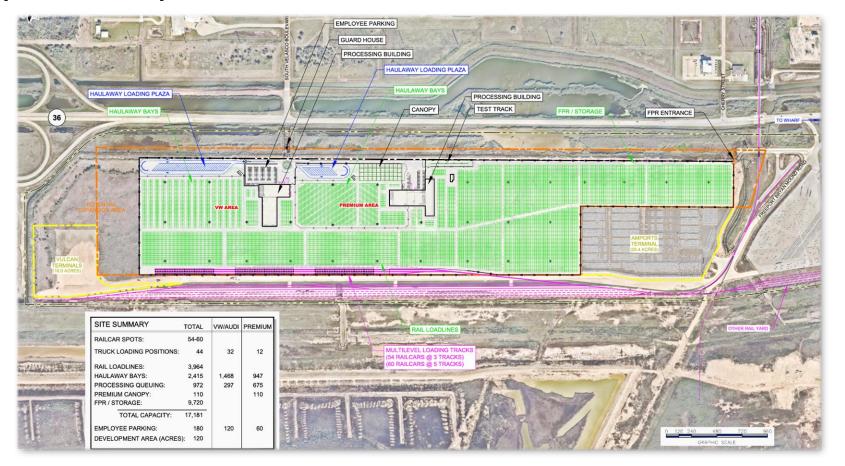
Proposed Development – Location







Proposed Development – Site Plan



Financial & Investment Summary



- Total capital investment in the project is projected at nearly \$115 million
 - Vertical building improvements estimated taxable value of \$28.5 million
 - Site Stabilization \$72.2 million of hard and soft costs
- 30-year lease with Port Freeport. Developer will construct and finance the project for VWGoA.
 - Sublease between PRP KDC Freeport Development LLC (our developer) and VWGoA. 20-year triple net lease with all taxes, expenses, and utilities passing through 100% to VWGoA (tenant).
 - There will be extension options to extend the sublease with VWGoA to the full 30 year term of the underlying ground lease with the port
- Given the increased costs to stabilize the land certain costs to VW increase in Freeport.





Hard Costs Construction		Combined Hard + Soft Cost
Vertical Buildings – Not Including Equipment	\$28.5 M Estimated Taxable Value	\$30.2 M + \$12.02 M = \$42.22 M
Site Work (including parking infrastructure and lighting)	\$48.8 M	\$48.8 M + \$20.4 M : \$72.2 M
General Contract Fees and Insurance / Permitting	\$4.7 M	1
Total	\$82 M	
	•	/

Soft Costs	
Ex: Architecture, Engineering, Interest, Taxes during Construction, Escal	ation Allowances, Legal, Brokerage
Total	\$32 M

Total Project Cost	\$114.495 M
**rounding in above numbers results in incorrect sum	

30% – 50% higher than comparable locations

Exhibit F

Statement on Water and Sewer Use

The Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. port terminal facility at Port Freeport would be connected to city services for water and sewer.

Statement on Planned Use of Brazoria County Vendors

Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. and its development partners will endeavor to locate and source local Brazoria County Vendors and Services throughout all elements of the Project, including, but not limited to, site work, construction, and on-going operation of the facility.

Tangible Personal Property Qualified for Abatement

Description	Cost (\$)	Projected Life	Value After 7 Year Abatement (\$)
Challenger Lifts	524,000	14	230,560
Dock Equipment	21,700	14	9,548
Hunter Lifts	111,800	14	49,192
Paint Booth	273,000	14	120,120
Racking	228,000	14	100,320
Rotary Lifts	236,000	14	103,840
Total	1,394,500		613,580

Exhibit J

VOLKSWAGEN

GROUP OF AMERICA

Tim Kelty
City Manager
City of Freeport
200 W. 2nd Street
Freeport, TX 77541

Donald Davidson NAME
Manager of Government Relations TITLE
Government Relations DEPARTMENT
+1 202 899 1004 DIRECT
+1 202 431 8108 MOBILE
donald.davidson@vw.com E-MAIL

March 1, 2022 DATE

RE: Tax Abatement Request – Proposed Investment at Port Freeport

Dear Mr. Kelty:

On behalf of Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (VWGoA), I am writing to request consideration of a tax abatement by the City of Freeport to support the substantial investment VWGoA is proposing at Port Freeport.

As you know, VWGoA currently utilizes the Port of Houston and a Midlothian inland port to import vehicles, and we are now in the process of evaluating a number of ports across the Gulf Coast as opportunities to expand our investment and presence. We have had positive discussions with Port Freeport, and as our company works towards making a final siting decision, we would like to begin exploring how best to partner with the City to support this project.

The proposed VWGoA Port of Entry project at Port Freeport will consist of a 125-acre vehicle importation and processing center, which will manage distribution of vehicles inbound from Europe and Mexico by both rail and water. The project will include an on-site rail loading and unloading facility, a vehicle storage area, as well as two buildings totaling approximately 170,000 square feet for administration, vehicle processing, parts storage, and specialized technical space for several different Volkswagen Group brands. Additionally, electric chargers, fueling facilities, car washes, a storage canopy for certain vehicles, and dedicated truck loading and haulaway facilities will be constructed.

The project will be constructed on land ground leased from Port Freeport, who will retain fee title to the land.

The geographical area of dealers that will be served by the project will cover over 50% of the United States by geography, serving dealers in an area spanning Texas, the Midwest, and the Pacific Northwest. Average throughput of the facility over the next 5 years is projected to be between 120,000 and 140,000 cars per year.

VOLKSWAGEN GROUP OF AMERICA, INC. 601 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW SUITE 740 WASHINGTON, DC 20004 Total capital investment in the project is projected at approximately \$115 million, and the vertical building improvements in the project are projected to have an estimated taxable value of \$28.5 million.

During construction of the project, we would anticipate the creation of 387 jobs over a construction period of 18-20 months, with almost 550,000 person-hours of construction activities being performed.

After initiating operations at Port Freeport, the VWGoA Port of Entry would support jobs for 260-300 people. 113 of these jobs would be at the Volkswagen Group terminal itself, with others being created as a direct result of our port operations. For instance, our operations would require employment at the port of 60 to 100 stevedore drivers to unload the thousands of vehicles the terminal will import via vessel. Additionally, our operations would require a robust trucking operation to be established and would support further employment at a shortline rail operator. Below is a more detailed estimate of employment impact.

Estimated Total Employment Connected to VWGoA Port of Entry Project

	Number of People
VWGoA Full Time Employees	11
Contractor / 3 rd Party Logistics Provider (3PL) – Processing, Management, Administrative, HR, IT)	55
Porsche Full Time Employees	3
Contractor 3PL – Rail Operations	12
Contractor 3PL – Technical (Accessory Installation, Vehicle Quality, Collision Repair Technician, Paint Shop Technician)	25
Contractor 3PL – Warehouse (Forklift Operator, Parts)	4
Contractor 3PL - Temp Labor (operations)	15
Facility Maintenance	3
Trucking (Dispatch, Truck Loading Supervision, Short Haul drivers)	15
Trucking (Long Haul drivers)	40
Vessel Stevedore Management, Supervision, Administration	5
Vessel Stevedore Drivers	60-100
Shortline Rail Operator	10
Vehicle Inspection 3PL	2
VWGoA / Porsche Full Time Employees	14
Total Jobs Directly at VWGoA Port of Entry	113
Total Direct & Indirect Jobs	260-300

Bold, Italicized = Jobs at VWGoA Terminal

As the VWGoA Port of Entry project most closely matches the description of Applicant Category D in Resolution No. 2020-2636, VWGoA would request a 100% abatement on ad valorem taxes on real property and improvements for a period of 10 years. If Port Freeport is chosen as our next port of entry, this abatement would support the substantial additional investment (approximately \$65 million of hard and soft costs) we must make to stabilize the site's land – an investment in land that is significantly above that of competing sites.

We would request that the other local taxing entities, including Brazoria County, Brazosport College, Brazosport, Independent School District City of Freeport, Velasco Drainage District, and Port Freeport also grant the same abatement.

In addition to consideration of the abatement, we would request the City's assistance improving the intersection at which our site would connect to TX-36 Expressway and Velasco Boulevard in order to accommodate the increased traffic connected to our port operations. To support traffic flow at this intersection, the addition of a stop light and other intersection infrastructure improvements (deceleration and turn lanes, etc.) would be beneficial.

We appreciate your consideration and stand ready to provide any additional information you may need. We look forward to discussing the opportunity to partner together in support of this project and the City's broader economic growth.

Sincerely,

Donald Davidson
Manager of Government Relations
Volkswagen Group of America

cc: Joe Magruder, Economic Development & Tourism - Office of the Governor Phyllis Saathoff, Port Freeport
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